

REMARKS

Claims 1-54 were pending. Claims 1, 15, 20, 31 and 45 have been amended to further clarify the nature of the invention. Accordingly, claims 1-54 remain pending.

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of the present Office Action, Applicant has amended the specification to correct a reference numeral.

In the present Office Action, claims 1-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,600,368 (hereinafter "Matthews") in view of International Publication WO 92/22983 (hereinafter "Browne"). Applicant submits each of the pending claims recite features neither taught nor suggested by the cited art, either singly or in combination, and respectfully requests reconsideration.

Generally speaking, Matthews teaches a system wherein a broadcaster may broadcast more than one perspective of a particular event (e.g., a baseball game). Browne is directed to a multi-source recorder player. However, the combination of these two references does not teach or suggest all of the features of the pending claims. For example, claim 1 recites a method which includes:

"receiving a broadcast of a program, the broadcast containing a plurality of perspectives of the program;
presenting a first perspective of the plurality of perspectives to a viewer;
storing at least one of the plurality of perspectives;
identifying in the first perspective a particular point in time in the program; and
presenting a second perspective of the plurality of perspectives of the program to the viewer, wherein the second perspective is automatically presented beginning at the particular point in time."

At least the above highlighted features are neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. As may be appreciated from the above highlighted features, while there are two

perspectives recited in the claim, there is a relationship between the two. As recited, the method includes identifying in the first perspective to locate a particular point in time in the program and presenting the second perspective such that it automatically begins at the particular point in time of the program. Such teachings are wholly absent from the cited art. One example of related description in the present application includes the following:

“In this example, the viewer has been watching a live broadcast that contains video perspective V_1 . As the viewer watches, that video perspective, V_1 is being recorded to a file. Also, other video perspectives, including video perspective V_2 , are being recorded to a different file because they represent a different view of the same information. Of course, V_2 could be recorded in the same file as long as other information distinguishing V_1 from V_2 is recorded somewhere. The viewer has just seen something interesting on the screen and enters the appropriate commands to cause V_1 to be re-wound to the beginning of the interesting scene. . . . The viewer then issues a command that tells the set top box to start playing forward, but from V_2 rather than from V_1 .” (Description, page 27, lines 7-21).

In the present Office Action, the examiner acknowledges that Matthews does not teach the feature “storing at least one of the plurality of perspectives” and cites Browne as teaching this feature. Generally speaking, Browne teaches a recorder player which can record from multiple input sources. However, apart from the neural network analysis circuit 114 and common interface in Browne, the mechanism taught by Browne is largely a simple conglomeration of multiple recording devices. In effect, Browne has merely packed multiple recording devices into a device and added a common interface. For example, note the following selected teachings of Browne concerning the perceived problem and solution:

“Currently, television viewers for the most part have little flexibility with regard to when broadcast programming may be viewed. . . . The video cassette recorder (VCR) is the only device which allows a user to control the recording of programs and the time of viewing programs, by replaying recorded programs. . . . However, current VCRs have limited storage capacity and only single source capability and therefore do not provide the user with a great degree of flexibility and control over program recording. . . . Furthermore, a conventional VCR can only record one program at a

time, while a typical household can receive many programs from multiple sources simultaneously. It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide large capacity multiple source recording with random access, . . .” (Browne, pages 1-2).

“In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, . . . input demodulator section 113 includes a plurality of input demodulators 113a-113g. . . . The input demodulators 113a-113g are preferably chosen to receive signals from one or more of the following: a VHF antenna input, an FM antenna input, an AM antenna input, a cable television input, a Direct Broadcast Satellite input, a digital signal input, and an audio and video direct input. . . .

Input signals 101a-101g are demodulated separately by each of the plurality of demodulators 113a-113g. After demodulation by input demodulators 113a-113g, the audio and video signals are separately converted to digital signals by analog to digital (a/d) conversion section 102. Conversion section 102 preferably comprises a plurality of a/d converters 102a-102f. In the preferred embodiment shown in Fig. 1, input signals 101a- 101f are analog signals. Therefore, there is one a/d converter 102a-102f for each simultaneously viewable and recordable analog input signal 101a-101f.” (Browne, pages 9-10).

“The stored program list contains a index of programs stored in storage section 104, and held in the memory of the controller 105. The controller 105 can thereby address a desired program and output it to decompression section 106.” (Browne, page 14, lines 5-7).

Consequently, Browne merely teaches the ability to record programs and retrieve recorded programs, and neither Browne nor Matthews teaches or suggests the above recited features of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the cited art. Further, Applicant notes that each of independent claims 15, 20, 31, and 45 include limitations similar to those discussed above, Therefore, for similar reasons, each of claim 15, 20, 31, and 45 are patentable as well.

Should the examiner have any questions or believe there are still reasons withhold allowing the present application to proceed to issuance, the below signed representative would greatly appreciate a telephone call at (512) 853-8866 in order to facilitate a rapid resolution.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any extensions of time (under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136) are necessary to prevent the above referenced application(s) from becoming abandoned, Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extensions. If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5266-05200/RDR.

Respectfully submitted,



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